

Evening Telegraph

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The earliest regular edition of THE EVENING TELEGRAPH goes to press at 1 1/2 o'clock, and the subsequent regular editions at 2 1/2, 3 1/2, and 4 1/2. Whenever there is important news of the complications in Europe, extra editions will be issued after this hour, and before the regular time for the early edition.

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTION.

We expressed a fear a few days ago that a turning-point in national politics had been reached, and the result of the election in New Hampshire furnishes unwelcome proof that this fear was but too well grounded. For the first time since 1854 the Democracy have swept that State, and for the first time since 1856 (the first year that the Republican party was well organized) have the Republicans lost it. Democratic, under the old order of things, New Hampshire abandoned her ancient faith when one of her sons, Franklin Pierce, signed the Kansas-Nebraska bill, and she has given steady adherence to the young giant of Republicanism through all the changing scenes of the war (wavering slightly only in 1862 and 1863 by diminishing her standard majority), and she returns to it now after seventeen years of allegiance to the cause of the country, after the battle is over and victory is won, and after a President, to whom she gave nearly seven thousand majority, is installed in the White House.

This significant political revolution is unhappily as complete as it is remarkable. Before the election there was a slight fear that the Republicans would lose one out of three Congressmen, but the returns indicate, contrary to all expectations, that the Democracy have carried all the Congressional districts.

Thus, three votes will be taken from the Republican phalanx in the House of Representatives and added to the ranks of the Democracy, giving them 36 members—a force that, when it is increased by a few more Democratic members who will probably be elected, will enable them to prevent decided legislation in the interest of Republicanism; and the State itself, which was supposed to be as safe as Lancaster county, elects a Democratic Governor!

For such an extraordinary manifestation of public sentiment there must be some extraordinary explanation. No party so strongly entrenched could be thus routed, if deep and intense dissatisfaction with some of its proceedings had not been created.

Among these causes the San Domingo policy, and the determined opposition to it in New Hampshire, is probably one of the most important.

A correspondent of the New York Tribune, writing from Nashua, N. H., on the eve of the election, thus describes some of the points made against the proposed acquisition by Senator Patterson:

"In his speech here last week Senator Patterson took strong ground against the annexation of San Domingo, for the reason that we have hurricanes and hurricanes enough. He said that General Sherman had informed him that to protect Dominica it would require a standing army of 5000 men, which would be maintained at an annual expense of \$10,000,000, and this would be a small part of the expense. The purchase-money would amount to \$40,000,000; and in addition to this would be the heavy expense of building fortifications and guarding the seaboard. The inhabitants are ignorant, and while we would educate the world, our first duty is at home. The people are rebellious, too, for it is only a few years since Spain sent 40,000 men there to suppress a rebellion, 50,000 of whom found their graves, and Spain lost the country. France had tried to govern them, and lost 40,000 soldiers and millions of treasure. Is the prospect any brighter for the United States? General Sherman had said, in a Cabinet meeting, that 'this annexation would be the first nail in our coffin.'"

The danger of making a party test of a measure which a Republican Senator condemns in this fashion is painfully apparent. On the heels of this speech came the news that Sumner had been deposed from the chairmanship of the Committee on Foreign Relations, and intelligent and conscientious men were forced to conclude that the new reading of Republicanism was to be devotion to a measure (San Domingo) which they intensely abhorred. But, aside from this question, other causes of dissatisfaction changed many votes.

Men who cared little for foreign questions of any description revolted against the unnecessary continuation of the odious income tax.

The people, who had long and quietly born the brunt of a taxation, determined to vote against continued efforts to pour annually into the National Treasury one hundred millions of dollars more than the current expenses.

Men who were indignant with the continuation of the war tax on tea and coffee, voted for its repeal.

Men who fancied that the administration, in its zeal for foreign acquisitions, which they deemed not only undesirable but dangerous, was neglecting domestic interests of primary importance, were anxious to rebuke such impudent neglect.

Men who saw money plenty in the vaults of banks, in the strong-boxes of the Treasury, in the hands of stock speculators, in every circle where it was not needed for useful purposes, while it was woefully scarce in the hands of the people, voted for a new and better policy.

Men who believed that extravagance had

been carried to undue limits, that corruption still abounded, and that, if the able-bodied white tax-payer did not quickly begin to look after his interests, he would soon have no interests left worth looking after, voted with the Democracy for the first time in their lives.

Despite these dissatisfactions, there is still time left to rally the Republican party for the Presidential campaign of 1872 if wise, vigorous, prudent, and just measures are speedily adopted. No time is to be lost, however. Since the tyros of politics can now plainly see how easily the power of a great party can be frittered away, some of its cool heads and brave hearts should still be able to replace the benighted wanderers on the highway to victory.

THE INDIGNATION MEETING LAST NIGHT.

The meeting at Horticultural Hall last evening was a warning that the members of the Legislature will do well to heed, for it is certain from the temper manifested that the Tammany government which it is proposed to place over this city will not be tamely submitted to. The meeting was very largely made up of poor working men, the owners and lessees of small houses, a class which on ordinary occasions is distinguished for its profound respect for the law, and for its cordial submission, in the interests of good government, to the decrees of the law-making power. It was evident from the conversations which took place in every part of the hall previous to and during the formal proceedings of the meeting, that these men were thoroughly alarmed, and that they fully understood what the ultimate results of a commission government would be.

They felt instinctively that upon them, and not upon the rich men of the city, would fall the burden of increased taxation; and with the prospect that all the results of years of toil will be swept away to gratify the greed of an irresponsible and all-powerful oligarchy, they naturally and properly arrived at the conclusion that when the law fails to protect the citizen it is the duty of the citizen to protect himself. The man who by dint of hard saving has managed to obtain a home for himself will not tamely submit to have it taken away from him by a system of government to which he never consented, and which never received the sanction of a majority of his fellow-citizens. Every small property-holder in the city of Philadelphia is now threatened by the commission bills with the confiscation of his home and lot of land by a system of taxation over which he has no control whatever, and the alarm and indignation of those who attended the meeting last evening, if not loud-voiced, were deep; and if the Legislature should dare to pass the Commission bills in the face of the protest of the citizens of Philadelphia, the men who expect to grow rich by means of them may possibly find that some laws cannot be executed when public opinion in a community of freemen is unanimously opposed to them. The citizens of Philadelphia will have the sympathies of the entire nation in any opposition they may make to the enforcement of the commission bills in case they become laws, for these bills will completely overthrow republican government, at least so far as this city is concerned, and will establish a despotism of the most infamous description—a greedy, pitiless, and unscrupulous oligarchy to which that of Venice would appear lamb-like in comparison.

The speakers at the meeting last night turned the whole commission scheme inside out, and exhibited it in all its deformity, and the response which the audience made to the telling points brought forward by Mr. Vaux, Mr. O'Byrne, and the other gentlemen who occupied the platform, proved how thoroughly the whole subject was understood, and how profound was the just indignation of the citizens who crowded the hall. The meeting was a warning to the Legislature, and especially to the Philadelphia delegation, that it would be well for them to heed. Every member from this city who advocates or votes for the commission bills, in their present or in any other shape, will be branded as a traitor to his constituents, and he will probably find, if he attempts to return, that Philadelphia will not be a pleasant place for him to live in for the future.

We caution our readers, as we did yesterday, not to place any reliance upon the reports which come from Harrisburg with regard to the defeat of the commission bills. They have for the present been choked off, but there is nothing to prevent them from being brought forward in the House and passed at any moment; and even if the present set of bills are definitely killed, there is every probability that others will be introduced, and a determined effort made to push them through both houses, and to secure the signature of the Governor. The men who expect to be benefitted by the commission scheme have prepared a deep-laid plan, and they are determined if possible to carry it at the present session in spite of all opposition. Such an opportunity for wholesale stealing under the protection of law was never before offered in this country—for our commission bills go a step further than those under which New York is plundered—and with untold millions almost in their grasp, desperate efforts will undoubtedly be made to secure the prize.

Of a kind with the three bills particularly referred to above is the Personal Tax Commission bill which was introduced some weeks ago, and which has almost been lost sight of lately, owing to the superior interest of the great plundering scheme. The bill for the creation of a Personal Tax Commission, however, is scarcely less dangerous and is no less obnoxious than the other measures, and it should be equally protested against. The individuals who are named for Commissioners of Public Works, Water, and Police have at least had the good grace to remain silent and not to insult the community by advocating the bills in which they are interested. William L. Den-

nis and R. J. C. Walker, two of the proposed personal-tax commissioners, have, however, actually appeared before the Committee on Municipal Corporations of the House of Representatives as the advocates for the passage of their bill. It is difficult to characterize such a proceeding in proper terms, but it is tolerably evident that the gentlemen named are entirely too anxious to assume the duties, responsibilities—may we say perquisites?—of commissioners, and the Legislature will do well to limit them, so far as is in its power, to the comparatively humble spheres which they now occupy.

One of the few bills now under consideration in the Legislature which is worthy of adoption embodies a plan for a new geological survey of the Commonwealth. This is a measure of real importance, which would quickly repay a hundred-fold the comparatively small expense attending it. Within a comparatively few years many of the progressive States have ordered geological surveys, and nowhere would such an investigation be more immediately and extensively useful and beneficial than in this great deposit of inexhaustible stores of coal, iron, and oil.

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